

Impaired pancreatic function in mulard ducks with experimental aflatoxicosis.

- **Source:** Agricultural Science & Technology (1313-8820) . 2013, Vol. 5 Issue 4, p394-399. 6p.
- **Author(s):** Valchev, I.; Grozeva, N.; Kanakov, D.; Hristov, Ts.; Lazarov, L.; Binev, R.; Nikolov, Y.
- **Abstract:** Changes in blood concentrations of some biochemical indices (alpha amylase, lipase, insulin and blood glucose) as well as in pancreas morphology were monitored in mulard ducks with experimental aflatoxicosis B₁. The experiments were conducted with 4 groups of 2010-day-old mulard ducks: group I -control, fed a standard compound feed according to the species and the age; group II - experimental, whose feed was supplemented with 0.5 mg/kg AFB₁, group III - experimental, supplemented with 0.8 mg/kg AFB and group IV- experimental, supplemented with 0.5 mg/kg AFB₁ and 2 g/kg Mycotox NG. The duration of the experiment was 42 days. By the 21st day of the experiment, ducks from groups II and III showed reduced activity of enzymes and blood glucose. The observed changes tended to become more pronounced by the 42nd day of the trial. Histopathologically, the pancreas exhibited intralobular swelling, disorganisation and disintegration of glandular acini, various extents of dystrophic changes, mononuclear infiltrates as well as necrobiotic changes depending on the dose of ingested toxin. The supplementation of contaminated feed with a mycosorbent (Mycotox NG) reduced statistically significantly the changes in blood biochemical parameters as well as the severity and frequency of observed histological lesions.
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